

Emergency Medical Services Education Committee Minutes

Monday, December 29, 2008
Decatur Township Fire Department Headquarters
5410 S. High School Road
Indianapolis, IN 46221
12:00 pm

Members present: Ed O'Farrell, Lindi Holt, Hugh Garner, John Zartman, Tina Butt, Jim Christopher, Steve Garrison, and Suzan Henke,

Guests: Myron Mackey, Terri Hamilton, and Chuck Valentine (EMS Commission members), Vicki Rush (St. Francis, Indpls), Tony Hartman (Elkhart Gen'l), and Teresa Hall (Lifeline/Clarian Health)

IDHS Staff Present: Mike Garvey, Julia Fox, Sherrie Crain, Jason Smith, and Jim Abraham.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ed O'Farrell at 12:25 pm.

Old Business

Lindi Holt discussed the recommendations that were established in the Scope of Practice meeting that immediately preceded the Education Committee meeting. Those recommendations will be attached to these minutes.

Hugh Garner offered input as to his feelings on the recommendations that Lindi had discussed as a proposed solution to the Scope of Practice. Hugh's position is that the recommendation to have all levels of certification go through testing with the National Registry particularly with the First Responder level. His concern is that the cost of testing will have a negative impact on those individuals that would wish to participate in the First Responder program. Steve Garrison suggested that the Education Committee hold off on accepting the recommendations until all committee members have had a chance to look over the recommendations before voting to accept or deny them. A lot of discussion followed as to the options available and the pros and cons of those options. The decision was to allow First Responders to take the certification test at Ivy Tech for \$15 now and set a goal that in three years the certification would go over to the National Registry and the cost of certification would increase to \$65. John Zartman made a motion to adopt the recommendation of the subcommittee with the alteration of the Ivy Tech testing. Steve Garrison seconded the motion. Motion carried eight votes for the motion.

Julia commented briefly on the information conveyed by Bill Brown during his visit with us at Brownsburg on December 16.

The next item of business was the online course approval process update by Julia. Sam Steinhilber and Sherrie worked out a list of items that needed to be checked for course outlines,

and course approval. The state's IT guys have been busy working with Sherrie and Sam to prepare an online course approval process. Hopefully the process will be available by early spring 2009. If you have everything required to do the class you will be granted a course number. If not, it will identify what you need to complete the process.

The EMS Advisory Committee meeting was postponed due to an ice storm warning. It will be rescheduled. Additionally, on November 14, 2008, members from Jackson County EMS participated in a Mass Casualty Incident scenario to serve as the Beta test group for the EMS Preparedness training program. The scenario was quite successful and the evaluation of the members response proved to also serve as an excellent training exercise.

New Business

Julia gave an update on the SMART Triage and the Autism TTT sessions that have just occurred. Both SMART and Autism train the trainers courses were conducted in all 10 IDHS Districts and an additional session was conducted in district 5—for a total of 21 sessions. A total of 270 individuals received autism training, 268 individuals received SMART training, 1462 SMART tag systems were distributed along with 25 SMART education packs. A total of 385 certified departments/providers were represented at the SMART sessions! Additional SMART tag systems and education packs are being ordered for the Indiana certified training institutions from a separate grant fund. SMART training and equipment distribution to the Indiana certified training institutions will take place in the early Spring 2009, after the shipment has been received from the distributor. Keep your eyes peeled for invitation for training institutions to come to another triage training program for them to acquire kits for training purposes.

The last item of business on the agenda was the assignments from the November 2008 EMS Commission meeting. The commission in November assigned the Education Committee the task of developing a crossover training course to update current First Responders in the use of backboards, splinting, and spinal immobilization. This assignment was the result of the Scope of Practice issue.

After considerable discussion, a motion was made to make no changes to the curriculum as it exist right now. We recommend that we adopt the Medical First Responder as identified in the Scope of Practice without changes. Motion by Jim Christopher, seconded by Hugh Garner. The vote was 4 in favor. With 3 against.

The meeting closed out with Julia presenting the alternative autism curriculum. No opposition was received from the members and comments were positive. In addition to the anticipated distribution of the curriculum in an online format, Julia stated that the person completing the training would also be able to generate a course completion certificate and that their completion of the course could be linked to the new Acadis database (for record on their certification). The general consensus was that many certified personnel and providers will benefit from the availability of this content to be offered online.

Upcoming meeting dates – Commission meeting dates 1/23, 3/26, 7/17, 9/17, 11/13. EdCom 2009 meeting dates – 2/2, 3/30, 7/27, 9/28, 11/23.

February meeting will be at St. Francis – South. Ortho Indy Building. 5255 E. Stop 11 Road, Indianapolis. Suite 305

Meeting adjourned at 3:06 p.m.